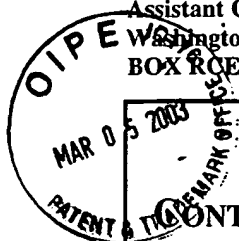


Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
BOX RCE

PTO/SB/30
U.S. Department of Commerce
Patent and Trademark Office
PATENT



REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL
<small>Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application Filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).</small>

Application Number	09/113,770
Filing Date	7/10/98
First Named Inventor	Edward G. Tiedemann, Jr.
Group Art Unit	2634
Examiner Name	S. Liu
Customer Number	23696
Attorney Docket Number	PA577

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which estimated RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on
- iii. ☐ Other
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☐ Other

2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(l) required)
- b. ☐ Other

3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 which the RCE is filed.

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 17-0026
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
- ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.117)
- ☐ One Month (\$110.00) ☐ Two Months (\$410.00) ☐ Three Months (\$930.00)
- iii. ☐ Other

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Technology Center 2600

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Date	2/28/03	Signature	
		Michael D. Graham, Reg. No. 51,751 (858) 658-5877	

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name (Print Type)	KAYLA R. SEIGNIOUS		
Signature		Date	2/28/03

QUALCOMM Incorporated
5775 Morehouse Drive
San Diego, California 92121-1714
Telephone: (858) 651-4404
Facsimile: (858) 658-2502



23696

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